

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-18 remain pending in this application. No claims have been canceled or added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 1-4, 10 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Zhang (U.S. Patent No. 5,814,529). Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhang in view of Tanabe et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,998,838). Claims 5 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhang in view of Jung et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,317,173). Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhang in view of Hara et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,790). These rejections are traversed as follows. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the present invention over Zhang. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to clearly define the present invention over Figs. 1C and 1D of Zhang.

Claim 1 has been amended to clearly recite the layer structure of the first insulation film, the second insulation film and the interlayer insulation film for each of the storage region, the drain region and the storage capacitance part (see, for example, specification page 14, lines 8-11 and Fig. 1).

As mentioned in the previously filed response, Zhang's contact through hole is formed by a two-step process. On the other hand, the present contact through hole can be formed by a single etching process. In Zhang, the second insulation film is formed on the overall substrate. On the other hand, according to the present invention, after the second insulation film is formed, it is removed in the vicinity of the contact through hole (see Fig. 11). It is submitted that Zhang fails to disclose or suggest the structure presently claimed in independent claim 1. As such, it is submitted that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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